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EXAMINER				
OTHERN, BRENT T				
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05/21/2010		PAPER		

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

### Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/506,419

**Applicant(s)**

RASMUSSEN, OLE-BENDT

**Examiner**

BRENT T. O'HERN

**Art Unit**

1783

**Period for Reply** -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 March 2010.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 123-125 and 128-148 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 123-125 and 128-148 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB-06)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 3/22/2010 has been entered.

### ***Claims***

2. Claims 123-125 and 128-148 are pending.

## **WITHDRAWN OBJECTIONS/REJECTIONS**

3. All objections/rejections of record in the Office action mailed 10/20/2009 have been withdrawn due to Applicant's amendments in the Paper filed 3/22/2010.

## **NEW OBJECTIONS**

### ***Specification***

4. The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required: the phrases "a first bonding pattern formed between the first surface of the film A and the first surface of the film B comprising: first bonds comprising spot-bonds formed directly points of intersection between the film A first strands and the film B first strands" in claim 123, lines 33-36 and "fourth bonds comprising spot-bonds formed directly between the film A third strands and the film C first strands, where the

film A first strands intersect the film C first strands" in claim 147, lines 27-28 lack textual support with the Specification. If Applicant believes support is present in canceled claim 24 or the Figures then Applicant is advised to amend the text of the Specification while being careful not to add new matter.

#### **NEW REJECTIONS**

5. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

6. Claims 123-125 and 128-148 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The phrases "a first bonding pattern formed between the first surface of the film A and the first surface of the film B comprising: first bonds comprising spot-bonds formed directly between the film A first strands and the film B first strands" in claim 123, lines 33-36 and "fourth bonds comprising spot-bonds formed directly between the film A third strands and the film C first strands, where the film A first strands intersect the film C first strands" in claim 147, lines 27-28 are new matter. The Specification does not disclose direct spot bonds.

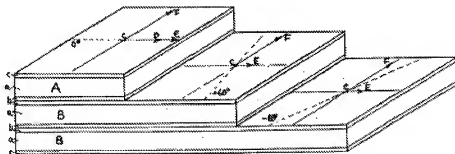
#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

7. Claims 123-125, 129-130, 136-137, 143-144 and 147-148 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rasmussen (WO 01/96102) in view of Hendrickson (US 4,087,577), Wynne et al. (US 5,328,743) and Lappala (US 2,851,389).

The language regarding the strand limitations in independent claim 123 is broad with minimal specificity distinguishing the strands as reinforcing strands, non reinforcing strands, ribs, striations, streaks, etc. or whether the strands are flat, round, etc.. Analysis and evidence is lacking regarding any structural differences for a laminate with strands that are coextruded as opposed to strands that are embedded in a polymeric structure.

Rasmussen ('102) teaches a cross-laminate comprising a first coextruded film having a film main direction of uniaxial unbalanced biaxial molecular orientation (*See p. 5, ll. 26-31 and FIG-2, cross laminate with multiple layers and sublayers.*)

FIG.1

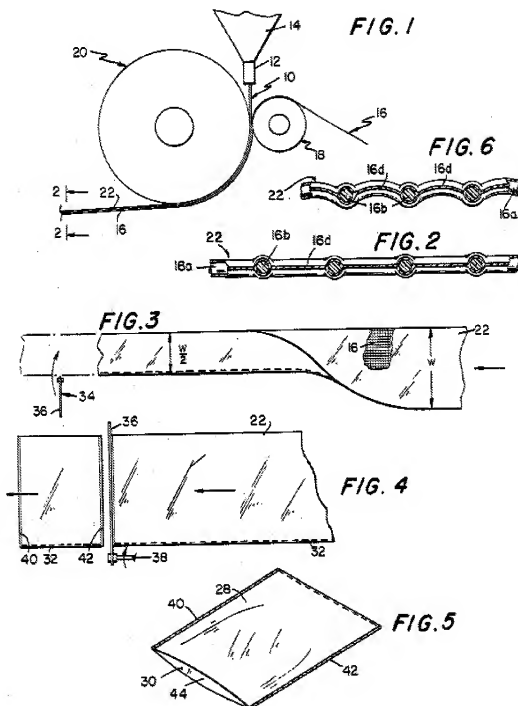


The films A and B first surfaces face each other and the films comprise heat seal layers #c, main layers #a and lamination layers #b, with individual compositions bonded to each other in the laminate as illustrated in FIG-2 as well as bonding of the layers when the layers are wrapped such as in a gusseted tube. Since the layers have

different compositions the bonding and adhesive strengths are different. Since some portions of the laminate are bonded at the seam there are regions of some of the laminate substrates that have additional bonding that is not present in other regions (See p. 2, ll. 42-58, p. 11, l. 25 to p. 12, l. 14, p. 5, ll. 26-31, p. 6, ll. 1-9 and FIG-2. *The Examiner interprets continuous to mean anything such as color, width, length, thickness, surface property, etc.. The claims do not set forth whether the main layers are the outermost or innermost surfaces of the laminate or just one is on an outermost surface. The strands are interpreted as being in either the same or different planes from one another. There is no apparent difference in the structure between strands that are coextruded and those that are not.*), however, fails to expressly disclose wherein the various layers are continuous, having a plurality of arrays of strands in films A, B and C wherein a separation between adjacent arrays of film A first strands is between 2 mm and 8 cm and wherein a separation between adjacent arrays of film B first strands is between 2 mm and 8 cm, wherein the first bonds comprise spot-bonds with the bonding being different between the various layers and regions within the layer, wherein the film A first strands intersect the film B first strands and film C first strands, a thickness increase of the films A and B at their respective array locations being at most 20%/(10%) of a film thickness of the films A and B in adjacent regions of the films A and B devoid of their respective strands, the first and second polymer materials and where the strands have a thickness of no more than 30% of a thickness of their respective films at their thickest.

However, Rasmussen ('102) teaches where the structure is made into bags, wherein the layers are continuous when wrapped such as with a gusseted tube and as the layers progress to the opening(s) in the gusseted tube until the layers terminate. Each layer clearly has a pattern whether it is substantially the same, including wave-shaped web with stabilized waves (*See p. 8, ll. 28-32.*), within the layer or upon the bonded and non-bonded areas with various bonding strengths and the additional layers and or/markings will clearly be applied at various regions in a continuous manner to provide for the desired messages (*See p. 6, ll. 1-9.*). Pigments are added to the various compositions providing for further patterns (*See p. 11, l. 25 to p. 12, l. 14.*) for the purpose of providing a pleasing, strong bag for containing the packaged goods (*See p. 6, ll. 1-9.*).

Hendrickson ('577) teaches a polymeric bag reinforced with a two sets of crossing strands of a first polyolefin polymer that may be woven or nonwoven into a grid while the polymeric sheets are made from a different polyolefin polymer, thus, providing for different bonding properties between the sets of strands, top and bottom sheets and between the strands and the sheets (*See col. 3, l. 32 to col. 6, l. 35 and FIGs 2-6, with a bag as illustrated in FIG-5 and strands #16 illustrated in FIGs 2-3 and 6. The strands are clearly capable of being coextruded along with the film without there being any apparent structural difference between coextruded and non coextruded strands. When the strands are crossed they are capable of being spot welded.*)



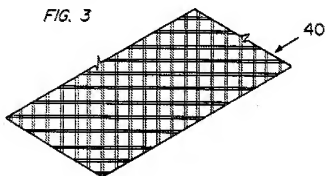
and the thickness of the film and at the location of the strands being the same as at the location between the strands (See col. 4, l. 57 to col. 5, l. 1.) for the purpose of providing



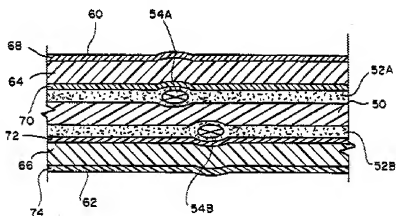
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bags with improved strength and capable of accommodating larger payloads (*See col. 6, ll. 36-61.*).

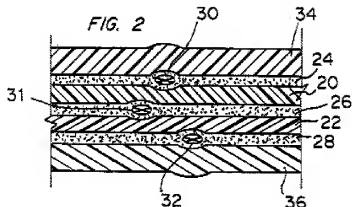
Wynne ('743) teaches a polymeric material (*See FIG-3, #40 and col. 5, ll. 5-59.*)



with multiple polyolefin polymeric layers being reinforced with a grid of crossing strands #54A and #54B and #30-32 made of different materials (*See FIGs 4 and 2.*)



*FIG. 4*



usable as a packaging material that can be seamed into bags (*See col. 5, ll. 16-59.*) for the purpose of providing a strong, reinforced protective material (*See col. 5, ll. 44-59.*).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time Applicant's invention was made to provide the above structure with spot welded strands, with a continuous and patterned structure as taught by Hendrickson ('577) and Wynne ('743) and obviously taught by Rasmussen ('102) in Rasmussen ('102) in order to provide a strong material capable protecting and accommodating larger payloads.

The phrase "where the strands have a thickness of no more than 30% of a thickness of their respective films at their thickest" in claim 123, lines 45-46 is not limiting since it includes values of zero.

The phrases "adapted to \*\*\*\*" in claim 124, line 3 and claim 143, line 2 do not limit the claims' scope since said language **does not limit the claim to a particular structure** (*See MPEP 2111.04*).

For the purposes of searching for and applying prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103, absent a clear indication in the specification or claims of what the basic and novel

characteristics actually are, “**consisting essentially of**” will be construed as equivalent to “comprising”. See, e.g., PPG, 156 F.3d at 1355, 48 USPQ2d at 1355 (“PPG could have defined the scope of the phrase consisting essentially of” for purposes of its patent by making clear in its specification what it regarded as constituting a material change in the basic and novel characteristics of the invention.”). MPEP 2111.03 Also, If an applicant contends that additional steps or materials in the prior art are excluded by the recitation of “consisting essentially of,” applicant has the burden of showing that the introduction of additional steps or components would materially change the characteristics of applicant’s invention. In re De Lajarte, 337 F.2d 870, 143 USPQ 256 (CCPA 1964). The “consists essentially of” language is used in claim 141, line 2.

8. Claim 128, 131-135 and 138-141 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rasmussen (WO 01/96102) in view of Hendrickson (US 4,087,577), Wynne et al. (US 5,328,743), Lappala (US 2,851,389) and Cederblad et al. (US 6,204,207).

Regarding claim 128, Rasmussen (102), Hendrickson (‘577), Wynne (‘743) and Cederblad (‘207) teach the laminate discussed above, however, fail to expressly disclose where a collective area of the film A first strands and film B first strands comprises no more than 60% of a surface area of their respective film sides.

However, Lappala (‘389) teaches a strand reinforced layered structure where any suitable diameter strand may be used (*See col. 2, l. 45, any suitable diameter can be used.*), which clearly changes the above area ratio. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant’s invention to

select a strand with a diameter that provides the above area ratio as taught by Lappala ('389) for the purpose of providing a laminate that is light and strong (*See col. 1, ll. 25-28.*).

Regarding claims 131-133 Rasmussen (102), Hendrickson ('577), Wynne ('743) and Cederblad ('207) teach the laminate discussed above, however, fail to expressly disclose wherein a volume of the film A strands and the film B strands is not greater than  $15\%/(10\%)(5\%)$  of a volume of their respective films.

However, Lappala ('389) teaches that any suitable diameter strand may be used (*See col. 2, l. 45, any suitable diameter can be used.*), which clearly changes the volume. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to select a strand with a diameter that provides the above volume as taught by Lappala ('389) for the purpose of providing a laminate that is light and strong (*See col. 1, ll. 25-28.*).

Regarding claims 134-135, Rasmussen (102), Hendrickson ('577), Wynne ('743) and Cederblad ('207) teach the laminate discussed above, however, fail to expressly disclose the separation is between 2 mm and 40 mm/(at the highest 20 mm).

However, Lappala ('389) teaches that any suitable pattern may be used (*See col. 2, l. 49-51, any suitable pattern.*) for the purpose of providing a laminate that is light and strong (*See col. 1, ll. 25-28.*).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to select a suitable pattern that provides the above

separation as taught by Lappala ('389) in Rasmussen (102) in order to provide a laminate that is light and strong.

Regarding claims 138-140, Rasmussen (102), Hendrickson ('577) and Wynne ('743) teach the laminate discussed above, however, fail to expressly disclose wherein an average melting point of the third polymer material and average melting point of the sixth polymer materials are at least about 10°C/(15°C)/(20°C) lower than an average melting point of the first polymer material and an average melting point of the fourth polymer material.

However, Cederblad ('207) teaches a laminate with strands where the layers comprise a copolymer of ethylene having a melting point or a melting range within the temperature range of 50 - 100 °C (*See col. 12, l. 42 wherein the melting point is 67 °C /152 °F.*) and a strand reinforced polymer structure where the average melting point of the polymer material of the layers of the films differ (*See col. 12, ll. 38-53.*) for the purpose of providing firm and light bonds (*See col. 6, ll. 60-67.*).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time Applicant's invention was made to provide strands with melting points below that of the films as taught by Cederblad ('207) in Rasmussen (102) in order to produce a laminate with firm and light bonds.

Regarding claim 141, Rasmussen (102), Hendrickson ('577), Wynne ('743) and Cederblad ('207) teach the laminate discussed above, however, fail to expressly disclose wherein the main layer of each of the two films A and B consists essentially of polyethylene or polypropylene.

However, Lappala ('389) teaches wherein the main layer of each of the two films A and B is polyethylene (*See col. 2, l. 31 and ll. 66-67.*) for the purpose of providing a laminate that is light and strong (*See col. 1, ll. 25-28.*).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time Applicant's invention was made to provide polyethylene layers as taught by Lappala ('389) in Rasmussen (102) in order to provide a laminate that is light and strong.

9. Claim 142 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rasmussen (WO 01/96102) in view of Hendrickson (US 4,087,577), Wynne et al. (US 5,328,743), Lappala (US 2,851,389), Cederblad et al. (US 6,204,207), Rasmussen (US 4,039,364) and Velazquez (US 5,614,297).

Rasmussen ('102), Hendrickson ('577) and Wynne ('743) teach the laminate discussed above, and Rasmussen ('364) teaches a laminate wherein the main layers are made from HDPE, LLDPE or a blend of the two (*See col. 13, ll. 3-7.*) and the strands in the first surface layers of the films is a polymer made from a copolymer of ethylene (*See col. 13, ll. 11-30.*), however, fail to expressly disclose wherein the bonding layers comprise LLDPE in admixture with 5 - 25% of a copolymer of ethylene having a melting point or a melting range within the temperature range of 50 - 80 °C.

However, Velazquez ('297) teaches a polyolefin stretch film having bonding layers comprising LLDPE in admixture with 5 - 25% of a copolymer of ethylene having a melting point or a melting range within the temperature range of 50 - 80 °C (*See col. 8,*

*ll. 26-47 and col. 3, l. 46.)* for the purpose or providing a film that can be laminated with one or more films (*See col. 6, ll. 13-17.*).

Furthermore, Cederblad ('207) teaches wherein the layers comprising a copolymer of ethylene having a melting point or a melting range within the temperature range of 50 - 80 °C (*See col. 12, l. 42 wherein the melting point is 67 °C /152 °F.*) for the purpose of forming firm bonds (*See col. 6, l. 63.*).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time applicant's invention was made to provide a laminate with a surface layer of LLDPE and ethylene with the above melting point range and the above strands as taught by Velazquez ('297) and Cederblad ('207) in Rasmussen ('102) in order to provide a bondable laminate as described above.

**10.** Claims 145-146 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rasmussen (WO 01/96102) in view of Hendrickson (US 4,087,577), Wynne et al. (US 5,328,743), Lappala (US 2,851,389) and Johnston (US 3,340,128).

Regarding claim 145, Rasmussen (102), Hendrickson ('577), Wynne ('743) and Lappala ('389) teach the laminate discussed above, however, fail to expressly disclose wherein the polymer material of the strands of at least one of the films A and B includes colored material that makes the colored strands visible through at least one side of the cross-laminate.

However, Johnston ('128) teaches a strand reinforced structure where the polymer material of the strands of at least one of the arrays comprises coloration material in sufficient amount to render the at least one colored layer visible through at

least one side of the cross-laminate (*See col. 24, l. 58.*) for the purpose of providing a decorative motif (*See col. 24, ll. 59-60.*).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention was made to provide strands with coloration as taught by Johnston ('128) in Rasmussen (102) in order to provide a product having a decorative motif.

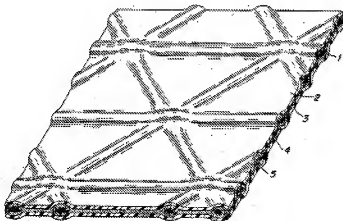
Regarding claim 146, Rasmussen (102), Hendrickson ('577), Cederblad ('207), Wynne ('743) and Johnston ('128) teach the laminate discussed above, however, fail to expressly disclose wherein the cross-laminate has a thickness at its highest of about 0.3 mm, and wherein an exterior surface of the film A is corrugated to form a visible pattern of striations extending in one direction, where a spacing of the striations being at most about 3 mm: the main layer and the bonding layer of the film A are substantially transparent to enable the colored strands to be visible when the laminate is observed from one of the exterior surfaces of the cross-laminate, and a depth of the corrugations is sufficient to impart a three-dimensional effect to the cross-laminate such that the strands appear to be spaced internally from the exterior surface of the film A a distance substantially greater than an actual maximum thickness of the film A.

However, Lappala ('389) teaches a strand reinforced layered structure where the laminate thickness at its thickest is about 0.3 mm (*See col. 3, ll. 34-35 and col. 2, l. 45 wherein the films are less than 0.015 in (0.381 mm).*), the main layer and the bonding layer of the film A are substantially transparent to enable the colored strands to be visible when the laminate is observed from one of the exterior surfaces of the cross-



laminate (See FIG-3, #2.), where the spacing of the striations being at most about 3 mm (See FIG-3, *corrugations created by strands.*) the main layer and the bonding layer of the film A are substantially transparent to enable the colored strands to be visible when the laminate is observed from one of the exterior surfaces of the cross-laminate, and the depth of the corrugations being sufficient to impart a three-dimensional effect to the cross-laminate such that the strands appear to be spaced internally from the exterior surface of the film A a distance substantially greater than an actual maximum thickness of the film A (See col. 2, l. 7.), for the purpose of providing a laminate that is light and strong (See col. 1, ll. 25-28.).

FIG. 3



Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art the time of Applicant's invention to provide such a spacing and configuration as taught by Lappala ('389) in Rasmussen ('102) in order to provide a light and strong laminate.

#### **ANSWERS TO APPLICANT'S ARGUMENTS**

11. In response to Applicant's arguments (*See pp. 12-16 of Applicant's Paper filed 3/22/2010.*) regarding the new spot bonding limitations, it is noted that said new limitations are addressed above.
12. In response to Applicant's arguments (*See p. 16, paras. 3-4 of Applicant's Paper filed 3/22/2010.*) that Rasmussen ('102) does not teach an array of strands, it is noted that the Examiner concurs.
13. In response to Applicant's arguments (*See pp. 16-17 of Applicant's Paper filed 3/22/2010.*) that the secondary references do not teach co-extruded strands, but rather reinforcing strands, it is noted that the claims are directed to a product and not a method of making a product. Rasmussen ('102) does teach a co-extruded product while the secondary references teach reinforcing the product with strands.
14. In response to Applicant's arguments (*See pp. 17-19, paragraph 10. of Applicant's Paper filed 3/22/2010.*) that Lappala's ('389) and the secondary references strands are not co-extruded, it is noted as discussed above that Rasmussen ('102) teaches a co-extruded product while the secondary references teach reinforcing the product with strands.
15. In response to Applicant's arguments (*See pp. 19-20, paragraph 11. of Applicant's Paper filed 3/22/2010.*) that Rasmussen ('364) and Velazquez do not teach claim 141 (typographical error?) because they do not teach the bonding pattern, it is noted that Velazquez ('297) is cited for teaching a polyolefin stretch film having bonding layers comprising LLDPE and neither reference is cited for teaching a bonding pattern.

16. In response to Applicant's arguments (*See p. 20, paragraph 12. of Applicant's Paper filed 3/22/2010.*) that the combined references do not disclose or teach the cross laminate of claim 145, it is noted that no further precise arguments are set forth than discussed above.

17. In response to Applicant's arguments (*See pp. 20-21, paragraph 13. of Applicant's Paper filed 3/22/2010.*) that the combined references do not disclose or teach the cross laminate of claim 146 but rather scrims, grids or screens, it is noted that no further precise arguments are set forth than discussed above.

18. In response to Applicant's arguments (*See pp. 21-23, of Applicant's Paper filed 3/22/2010.*) that respond to the Examiner's arguments in the previous Office action, it is noted that Applicant's arguments have been considered and are substantially the same as discussed above.

19. In response to Applicant's arguments (*See p. 22, of Applicant's Paper filed 3/22/2010.*) that the number of reference do not support an obviousness rejection, it is noted that there is not a limit on the number of references that can be cited in a rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BRENT T. O'HERN whose telephone number is (571)272-6385. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 9:00-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Sample can be reached on (571) 272-1376. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Brent T O'Hern/  
Examiner, Art Unit 1783  
May 18, 2010